THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) This Ministry had formulated developmental plan schemes for implementation since 1990-91. These schemes include those for assistance to State Governments, Corporations/Cooperative undertakings for setting up new integrated fruit & vegetable processing units as also assistance for modernisation, diversification & expansion etc. of the existing units, schemes for Research & Development and technology upgradation, schemes for modernisation in grain milling sector, etc. These schemes are being implemented during the current financial year also.

(c) and (d) This Ministry does not fix export target. However, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has fixed a target of export of processed fruits and food products worth Rs. 107 crores, animal products worth Rs. 196 crores and other processed foods worth Rs. 168 crores in the current year. As per the information given by APEDA these targets are likely to be achieved.

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Projects of Madhya Pradesh Pending for Approval

110. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the projects of Madhya Pradesh pending at present with the Planning Commission for approval; and

(b) the time by which the said projects are likely to be accorded approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Shivna Flood Control scheme and Flood Protection Scheme for Shujalpur Town are pending in the Planning Commission for approval.

(b) The decision for investment clearance for the above schemes in the Planning Commission depends upon the over all resource availability with the State Government and the sectoral priorities attached to various sectors by the Government of Madhya Pradesh in the Eighth Plan (1992-97) which is yet to be finalised.

[*English*]

Procurement price of Rice

112. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the procurement price of rice is more in Punjab than in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The procurement prices of levy-rice payable to rice millers for delivery of levy rice are determined on the basis of minimum support prices (MSP) of paddy fixed by Government of India for various varieties which are uniform throughout the country and variable factors like statutory taxes, non-statutory charges and out-turn ratio of rice from paddy applicable for various States/UTs. The difference in variable factors between Punjab and Andhra Pradesh results in fixation of different prices of levy rice for these two States.